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Department of State TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 440

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ACTION JPM 04

INFO EA 10, CIAE 00, DODE 00, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, ACDA 16, RSR 01, IO 13, /105 W
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R 190535Z MAR 69
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3568
INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 1575

SUBJ: BRIEFING GOA ON REVISED ABM PROGRAM

REF: STATE 40622

1. IN ACCORDANCE REFTEL, BRIEFINGS AND FULL TEXT WERE GIVEN TO EXTAFF AND DEFENCE OFFICIALS. POLITICAL COUNSELOR MET IN TURN WITH FIRST ASST. SECY. BOOKER AND WITH NICHOLSON OF PACIFIC AND AMERICAS BRANCH IN EXTAFF. DEFENSE ATTACHE MET WITH DEPUTY SECY. DEFENCE BLAKERS.

2. NO STRONG REACTIONS SHOWN BY THESE GOA OFFICIALS. THEY WERE PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN GETTING FACTS STRAIGHT. NICHOLSON ASKED WHETHER PREVIOUS SENTINEL SYSTEM HAD BEEN DESIGNED OFFER ANY PROTECTION TO MISSILE SITES. POLITICAL COUNSELOR THOUGHT SENTINEL HAD BEEN INTENDED ONLY TO PROVIDE COVER TO MAJOR CITIES. WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION OR CORRECTION THIS POINT.

3. AUSTRALIAN PRESS REACTION REPORTED SEPTTEL.
GP-3. CROOK

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY *[Signature]* DATE *11/5/80*
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE _____
TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☒
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